



Stoddart
(Brighton)

Soccer News



Clarke
(Moreland)

VICTORIAN AMATEUR SOCCER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

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THE GROUND QUESTION

By V. J. M. DIXON

If soccer is to continue to expand, strong action is required to ensure that proper grounds and facilities are made available to the round ball.

Since the English tour, when crowds of 30,000 or more attended at the M.C.G. and Richmond cricket-ground, we have slipped back to the old, haphazard week-to-week system, which has been our downfall for years. That this must stop is essential. The ridiculous position has arisen that although the Association is hard put to find a ground to play the Dockerty Cup semi-finals yet in a Sunday game, with an open gate, no less than £212 can be collected in donations.

More vigorous action on this question is needed both by the Association and club officials. The mere fact that the whole amount required to purchase a ground is not immediately available must not be allowed to retard the determined efforts of a few enthusiasts who have already taken tentative steps in the right direction.

Many methods of raising the necessary money can and have been suggested. The raising of debentures is one, while a concerted effort by all clubs to support the Queen Carnival could be the means of producing several thousands of pounds in a season.

That this is so has been proved in Western Australia. There the grounds fund has now thousands of pounds in hand, all raised in the above manner. Surely Victorians also can put a little of the necessary effort into such an essential and worthy cause.

We have seen this year that Olympic Park as the home of soccer is truly a broken reed. The powers that control it care nothing for soccer. The ground is given to all and sundry at a day or two's notice, and even allowed to be idle rather than allow the soccer association constant use of it.

In several suburbs are many fine grounds. They are practically empty on many Saturdays when second teams of Australian Rules clubs are playing. A game like soccer than can draw a box of several hundred should be allowed the use of these grounds in conjunction with other codes. Clubs with a district connection should boldly take the step of approaching their councils and make an offer for the use of such a ground. Remember most councils are scratching for money all the time. Money collected in a box could be multiplied many times with a turnstile. Any club obtaining the use of an enclosed ground could rest assured of assistance from the Association. But whoever succeeds first in their efforts matter little. We all must realise that to succeed soccer must have enclosed grounds of its own.

Editorial

All communications re "Soccer News" must be sent to the Editor, V. J. M. Dixon, 42 Nelson Street, Sandringham, S.8.



Last week brought the customary early round surprises in the Dockerty Cup competition. Notable among them was the defeat of First Division leaders, Yallourn, by South Melbourne United, which had no fewer than four Under 19 juniors playing. Brighton's heavy defeat of South Yarra, even with many of its players in New Zealand, was also something of a surprise, while Juventus put paid to the account of Sandringham City at Royal Park to the tune of 6-0. Footscray City meeting its old cup rivals, Box Hill, at Footscray won by one odd goal in three.

Undoubtedly the games which will create the greatest interest this week are those between J.U.S.T. and Polonia at Olympic Park, and between Sunshine United and Brighton at Sunshine.

Last week also we had the pleasure of seeing Victoria (Under 19) avenge its defeat of last year in South Australia by downing South Australia by 2 goals to 1 in the curtain raiser at Olympic Park. Bobby Traynor is to be congratulated on the fine showing his team put up against the much bigger South Australians.

With the whittling down of the teams in the cup competition "Soccer News" will now have to go into abeyance for two weeks. We shall reappear as usual for the semi-finals and final.

To those clubs left in the competition "Soccer News" wishes the best of luck and no injuries.

* * *

SPECIAL NOTICE

A benefit match will be played at Fawkner Park, South Yarra, on Sunday, August 26, between South Yarra Under 19 (1950) and South Melbourne United in aid of Kenny Martin, of South Yarra Under 19's, who is gravely ill in St. Vincent's.

NOTICE

Owing to the small number of games being played there will be no "Soccer News" next week. The next numbers will appear for the semi-finals and final of the Dockerty Cup. —EDITOR.

PARK RANGERS' QUEEN CARNIVAL DANCE

The Ladies' Social Committee are holding a dance for the Carnival Queen, on Saturday August 25, at Christ Church Hall, Acland Street, St. Kilda.

Admission is 3/- (inc. tax). Supper provided and dancing 8 p.m. to 11.30 p.m. Everyone made welcome. —J. W. GRAY, Secretary.

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HOME *and* AWAY

By REX BENSON



WATCH THAT LACE

Leslie, well-known coloured inside-left of Plymouth Argyle, had to quit football when a loose lace from a football flicked his eye and affected his sight.



FOOTBALLER FINED

On his return to England from Bogota, in Columbia, Mountford of Stoke City was fined £250 by the English F.A., and suspended for a period. Columbia is not a member of the F.I.F.A. and poaching foreign players is frowned upon.

ENGLISH CLUBS IN BRAZIL

Arsenal lost five out of the six games they played in Brazil, and Portsmouth, also touring that country, had a player sent off the field by an English referee. He was sent home.

SCOTLAND HUMILIATED

Having lost to Austria at Hampden Park, Scotland suffered a severe defeat in the return game in Austria. To add to this their well-known inside-forward, Billy Steel, was sent off the field during the game.

OFFSIDE AGAIN!

Player receives the ball in his own half of the field and is given offside. Impossible you say? Not if he was in an offside position in the other half of the field when a player of his own side kicked the ball to him. Running back into his own half to receive the pass would not put him onside, as the rule hinges on "when the ball was last played."

RECORD IN HAT-TRICKS

Dixie Dean, record goalscorer in the English Football League, recorded 37 hat-tricks during his career.

DON'T FENCE ME IN

Steve Bloomer, who held the goalscorer record until beaten by Dixie Dean, spent many years playing behind barbed-wire. He was coaching in Germany in 1914 and interned at the outbreak of war. Steve, who is now dead, visited Australia many years ago for his health.

VICTORIAN SOCCER ASSOCIATION

Second Annual Cabaret Ball

WEDNESDAY, 12th SEPTEMBER, 1951

SOUTH MELBOURNE TOWN HALL

8 p.m.-2 a.m. Tickets 15/6 (Inc. Tax)

All clubs are reminded that tickets for the above are limited. A real good night has been planned, so if you haven't made any reservations, please hurry along and do so.

Reservations: Mrs. T. White XU 1112.

J. Gray LA 1345 (Daytime). J. W. Gray (Treasurer).

WORLD CUP COMPETITION

Second Round D. H. Laidlaw Cup.

IRELAND v. MALTA, 2 p.m.

JUGOSLAVIA v. CZECHOSLOVAKIA, 3.30 p.m.

Sunday, August 26. South Melbourne Ground, Middle Park.

SOUTH AMERICA CLAIM TO SOCCER BEST

The defeats of two leading English soccer team, Arsenal and Portsmouth, in Brazil, have helped Argentine critics to the opinion that South American football is the world's best, reports Reuter from Buenos Aires.

After saying that he would have liked to have seen Arsenal and Portsmouth play in Argentina following their Brazilian tour, a leading sports writer said: "We wanted to see them play in order to confirm with our own eyes what we believe: that European football is much below the level of ours."

WORLD CUP 2nd ROUND

Ireland's team to play Malta next Sunday, August 26. The following players are requested to meet at the Green Gate Cafe, corner of Flinders and Elizabeth Streets, at 2 p.m. sharp: Rogers, Finlay (Capt.), Brown, Newberry, Managh, Branagh, Smith, Murray (Ulsterville), Watts, Nixon, Chonely (Coburg), Rice (Geelong), Hanna (South Yarra), Weatherall (Moreland), Wallace (Ulsterville), A. Mulcahy (V. Capt., Park Rangers). All players are to come with their strip. Come all ye Irish supporters and help the lads to a win.

—A. MULCAHY.

* * *

Readers who have been saving all their copies of "Soccer News" this season may get them tastefully bound into book form by our printers at the end of the season. Copies must be in the hands of Asher & Co., 285 Lennox Street, Richmond, within two weeks of the final number appearing and must be accompanied by a cheque or cash for the sum of 15/-, including tax and return postage.

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Secretary's Notes



Press Reports.—Many complaints have been received by me following incorrect press reports lately. Unfortunately the Association is not in a position to rectify them. As I have previously stated the press are a free body to write as they deem fit. Last week is a typical example when a sub-committee meeting was held, and the following morning three papers published an account of the proceedings. One paper stated facts only which were correct, the second paper made publicity by certain people making silly statements on the spur of the moment and the third paper published wrong facts. Followers of the game can take their choice but it seems obvious that one paper is being purchased steadily because soccer is receiving the space which it is entitled to.

Olympic Park.—Today will see a first-class game at Olympic Park between two new Australian teams. It says a lot for these clubs to get over the language difficulty and also show many clubs how soccer should be played.

Telephone.—The telephone number of the Secretary of the V.A.S.F.A. is U 8347. If you have any queries please phone after 6.30 o'clock each evening.

Results.—Last week the results of matches did not come in the way they should have. I suggest to the clubs that if they want an efficient association they must co-operate to achieve that aim.

Special General Meeting.—All clubs and affiliated bodies are reminded that a special general meeting of the V.A.S.F.A. will be held on Wednesday, August 29, 1951, at 7.15 p.m., in Room 11, Temperance Hall (Savoy Theatre Buildings), Russell Street, Melbourne. A fine of 20/- will be imposed on all clubs who fail to appear without reasonable excuse. It is suggested to clubs outside Melbourne that they appoint proxy delegates or notify the secretary if they are unable to attend.

Clubs are advised that a policeman must be provided by the home club where a crowd of at least 500 spectators is expected.

Junior Section.—Under 19 Division games listed for August 18, in league fixtures are to be played on September 1, next Saturday.

S. BEATON, Secretary, V.A.S.F.A.

* * *

ENGLISH TOUR FIGURES

Total aggregate attendance figures (all games in Australia) were 299,869, of which Victorian figures were approximately 75,000. Total gate receipts were £46,500. Expenditure is not yet to hand. (EDITOR.)

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Club Jottings

BRIGHTON

Last Saturday's game against South Yarra, in the second round of the Dockerty Cup was a game that will live long in the memory of the Brighton supporters. The score of four goals to one in our favour, was a true reflection of the game. The lads from Yarra will be the first to admit that they were well and truly beaten. A feature was the wing-half play of Reg. Shrubsole. He was outstanding all day and his triangular football with Gamble and Balabanski on the left-wing was copy-book stuff. All the Brighton players played well, but honours of the day go to Reg. for a display which puts him among the best wing-halves of Victoria, and also to Radi Balabanski for his hat-trick, every goal well taken, and how this lad enjoys his football. Radi or Bubbles as he is known to the Brighton supporters, is very popular. Thanks ladies for that 'Cuppa' after the game, the boys enjoyed it. As I have said before, you are doing a good job for the club, and it is appreciated.

Sunshine next week, and the Spiders are looking forward to the usual good game we always have with the United and also hoping to reverse a couple of decisions they have had on us this season, anyway, may the best team win. Don't forget September 1, Amateur Night in the Scout Hall. ALEX MAC.

FIFERS

From all sides came congratulations last week after our Cup win against Sunshine City, and although we say it ourselves, we deserved the pats on the back. For the first time in our history, we've survived the second round, and everyone is looking forward to at least a semi-final. We came back from a goal down at half-time, with two lovely goals from Harry Morgan. Everyone played above himself and once again, we are back to the old team spirit of the Fifers.

Thank you very much ladies, for a very nice spread after the game. Now you have broken the ice in this direction, we know you will continue the good work.

Sorry for such short notice re the social news. When the Rifle Club Hall burnt down, the committee really speeded up and tonight, we hope to see you all at Mr. and Mrs. Petrie's house party. Thank you, Bert and Faith, for your magnificent co-operation—and I think a word of praise to Les wouldn't be out of place.

At the time of writing, we don't know our next opponents, but whoever they may be—the best of luck against the new Fifers.

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FRANKSTON

In the second round of the Dockerty Cup, Frankston lost to Park Rangers by 8 goals to 2. Unfortunately the score does not give the real difference between the two teams, as I feel sure that Park Rangers will be the first to agree that they were not six goals better than Frankston. C. Davenport scored both of the Frankston goals within five minutes just after the interval. We would like to thank Park Rangers for a most sporting game and also wish them all the best in the next round of the cup.

We would now like to arrange friendly matches for any Saturday afternoon here at Frankston. If possible, we would also like to arrange "friendlies" for our Junior team or else our Reserve team here at Frankston, to start at 1.30 p.m. I may be contacted at Frankston 7 during the day or messages may be left at Frankston 901 during the evening. P. IMS.

POLONIA

One of the hardest games we had this season was the game played against International Harvester, played at Geelong on Saturday, August 18, 1951. The victory came in the extra 30 minutes play when we succeeded to score two goals. The Harvesters played a nice game and the wet ground spoiled many chances of scoring goals by both teams.

On Sunday, Polish national team defeated Greece 5-0., in the World Cup competition. Our boys played a nice game and victory was easy and deserved.

—T. CH.

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JUNIOR LEAGUE TABLES AS AT AUGUST 18, 1951

Under 19 Division

	P	W	L	D	F	A	P	Box Hill	P	W	L	D	F	A	P
Brighton	11	9	1	1	29	9	19	Coburg	13	9	1	3	48	11	6
Preston	13	9	4	0	35	19	18		13	1	10	2	9	29	4
Juventus	12	8	3	1	29	18	17								
Sunshine United	10	7	3	0	27	11	14	Sunshine United	11	10	1	0	43	7	20
South Melb. United	10	5	3	2	24	12	12	Brighton "A"	14	9	3	2	51	12	20
Sandringham City	10	5	4	1	24	17	11	Brighton "B"	14	10	4	0	42	15	20
Yallourn	9	4	4	1	18	15	9	Sth. Melb. United	11	9	1	1	31	4	19
Moorabbin City	11	4	6	1	14	21	9	Northcote	13	7	5	1	28	19	15
Footscray City	10	2	8	0	12	27	4	Preston	13	6	7	0	19	20	12
Northcote	10	1	8	1	20	35	3	Park Rangers	12	4	4	4	12	18	12
Hakoah J.R.C.	12	0	10	2	6	54	2	Box Hill	14	4	8	2	21	42	10
								Ringwood Boys	11	3	8	0	15	34	6
								Moreland	11	1	10	0	5	59	2
								South Yarra	12	0	12	0	3	40	0

Under 17 "A" Division

Brighton	12	10	0	2	44	7	23
South Yarra	12	5	6	1	19	25	11
Sandringham City	10	3	4	3	26	22	9
Army Apprentices "A"	8	4	3	1	21	20	9
Park Rangers	10	4	5	1	19	19	9
Sunshine City	11	3	6	2	12	30	8
Sunshine United	11	2	7	2	9	27	6

Under 17 "B" Division

Northcote	13	6	3	4	19	18	16
Sth. Melb. United	13	7	5	1	18	12	15
Preston	13	4	6	3	17	23	11
Army Apprentices "B"	9	2	4	3	9	27	7

Under 15 Division

Sunshine United	11	10	1	0	43	7	20
Brighton "A"	14	9	3	2	51	12	20
Brighton "B"	14	10	4	0	42	15	20
Sth. Melb. United	11	9	1	1	31	4	19
Northcote	13	7	5	1	28	19	15
Preston	13	6	7	0	19	20	12
Park Rangers	12	4	4	4	12	18	12
Box Hill	14	4	8	2	21	42	10
Ringwood Boys	11	3	8	0	15	34	6
Moreland	11	1	10	0	5	59	2
South Yarra	12	0	12	0	3	40	0

Under 14 Division

Coburg	14	12	1	1	67	7	25
Sth. Melb. United "A"	15	10	2	3	76	18	23
Park Rangers	15	10	3	2	65	13	22
Sandringham City	15	10	3	2	64	16	22
Sunshine City	15	9	6	0	52	24	18
Box Hill "A"	15	7	8	0	47	30	
Brighton	14	5	9	0	15	60	
Moorabbin City	15	3	11	1	7	86	
Sth. Melb. United "B"	15	2	13	0	6	64	4
Box Hill "B"	15	1	13	1	6	87	3

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Sir.—I was certainly courting trouble when mentioning the offside decision after the ball had struck the bar. A former referee, Mr. W. Harvey, of Hampton, has called me to task and enclosed diagrams from his referees' handbook which unfortunately do not deal with the exact incident. The ruling I mentioned was given by Jimmy Jewell against Joe ("Ten-goal") Payne of Luton Town in 1937. Jewell refereed the 1938 Cup Final so was in the top class. I stated in my notes that the ruling would lead to discussion, as at the time I thought the player was onside. —Yours, etc., REX BENSON.

SOUTH MELBOURNE UNITED CLUB'S DANCE

Club members and supporters of the South Melbourne United Soccer Club are advised that the next club dance will be held at St. Anselm's Hall, Langridge Street, Middle Park, on Saturday, September 8. Members and supporters of other clubs are also welcome, and a good night is guaranteed. —V. BATES, Social Secretary.

DOCKERTY CUP

Fourth Round, September 1.

Balwyn United or Fifers v. George Cross or South Melbourne United.

Royal Caledonians or Moreland v. J.U.S.T. or Polonia

Juventus or Park Rangers v. Coburg or Maccabi

Footscray City or Preston v. Sunshine United or Brighton

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